

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/630,990

Examiner

Dmitry Suhol

Applicant(s)

LENOX, WALTER W.

Art Unit

3725

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's amendment filed 11/14/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

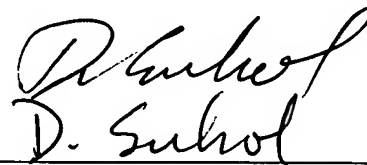
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


D. Suhol

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification, page 1, line 8 after "...filed 10/17/2001" insert - - now U.S. Patent No. 6,601,616 - -.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The specific limitations of "...a stationary first gripper located near a band entry port in the housing; a second gripper having a linkage to the motor to move forward by means of a mobile gripper housing toward the entry port and backward...wherein a clamp tightening mode of operation powers the second gripper backward while gripping a segment of a clamp, thereby tightening the clamp; wherein a clamp cutting mode of operation powers the second gripper forward, thereby releasing its grip on the clamp segment and activating the cutter to cut the clamp segment...the second gripper has a mechanical interface with one end of the cutter to pivot a cutting end of the cutter into contact with the segment of the clamp during the cutting mode of operation; and wherein the mobile gripper housing further comprises a release lever actuator which in the clamp cutting

Art Unit: 3725

mode contacts a pivotable stationary gripper release lever, thereby releasing the stationary first gripper from the segment of the clamp after the cutting mode operation" are not anticipated or made obvious over the prior art of record. It should be noted that although Lenox '616 discloses the invention but for the a release lever actuator it would not have been obvious to include a release lever actuator and pivotable stationary gripper release lever (as claimed) with the device of Lenox since the prior art of record fails to disclose or teach the release lever actuator and associated pivotable stationary gripper release lever as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dmitry Suhol whose telephone number is 571-272-4430. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Friday 8:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on (571) 272-4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3725

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Dmitry Suhol
Examiner
Art Unit 3725

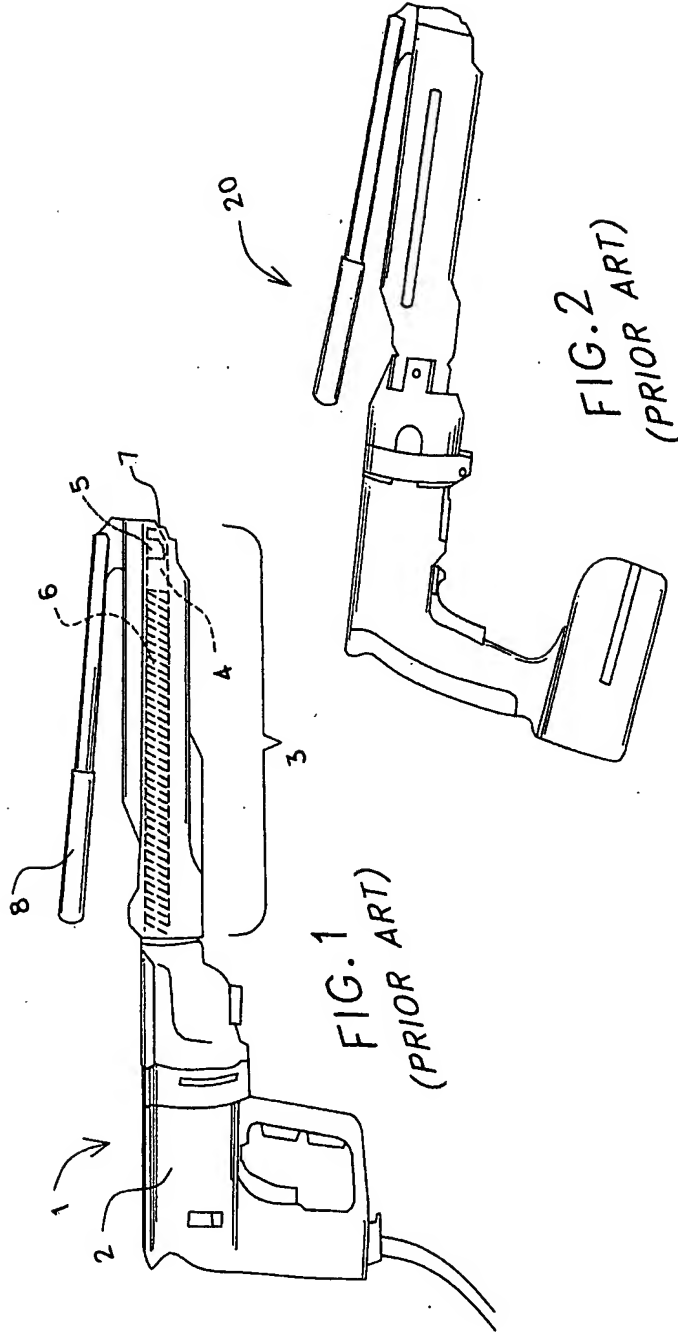
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140/123.6

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Title: Improved Powered Clamp
Applicant: Walter W. Lenox
Applicant: RM507a
Docket No. Rick Martin #32,267
Contact: Rick Martin
(303) 651-2171

1/16



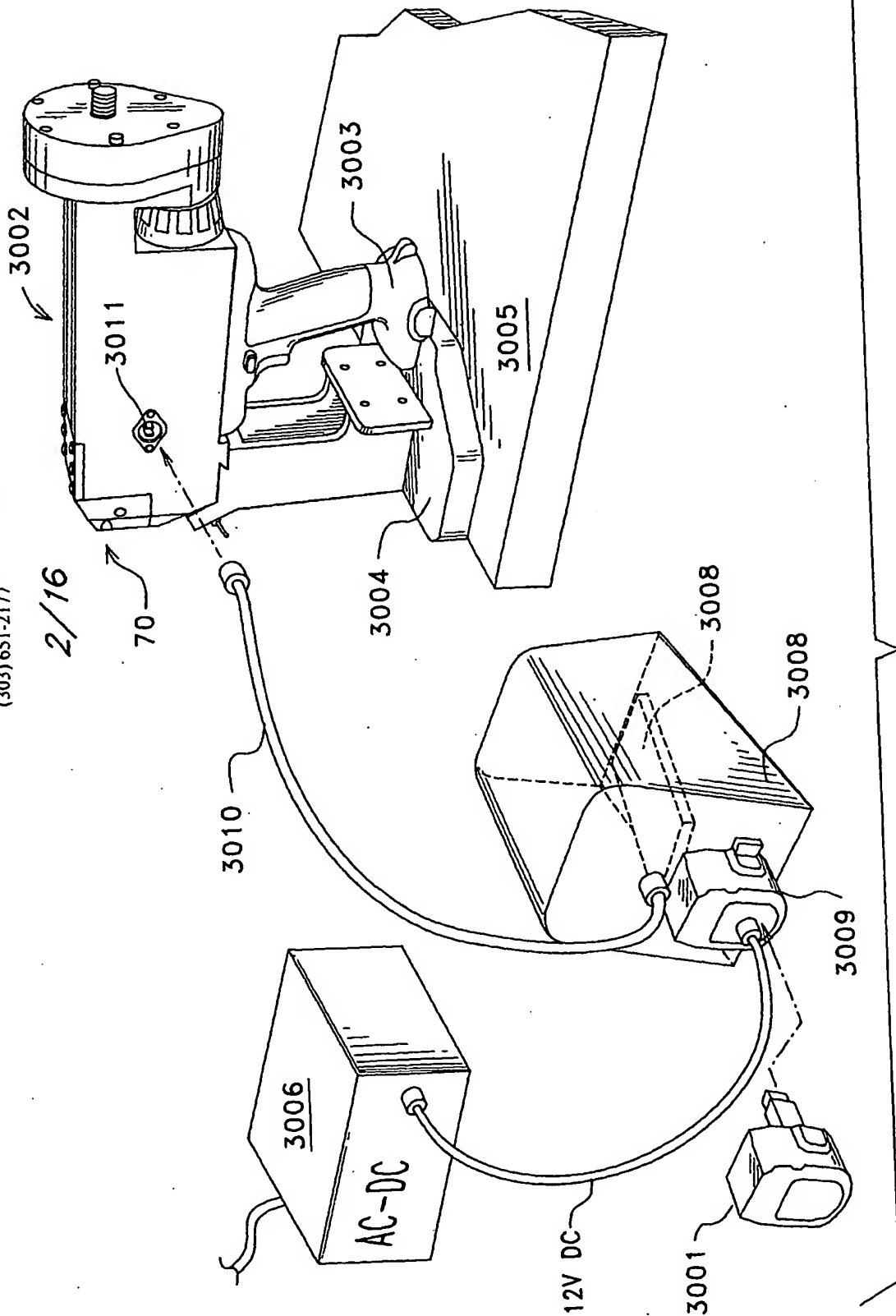
140/1226

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Title: Improved Powered Clamp
 Applicant: Walter W. Lenox
 Docket No. RM507a
 Contact: Rick Martin #32,267
 (303) 651-2177

2/16

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FIG. 3

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3/16

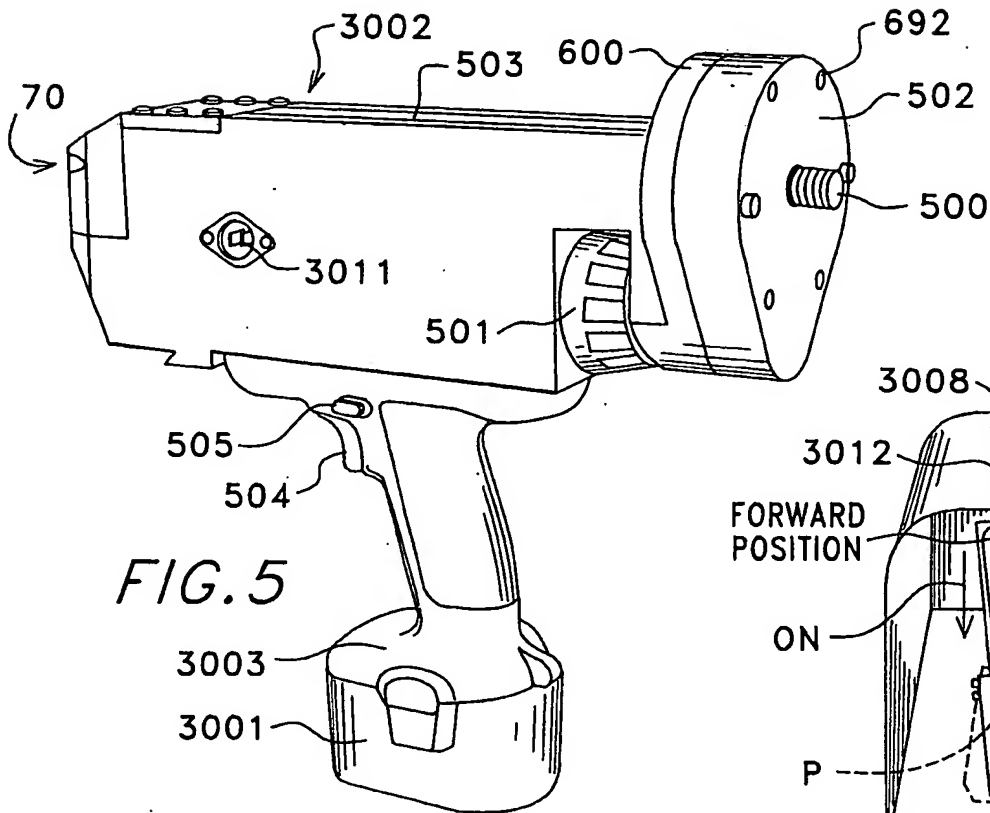


FIG. 5

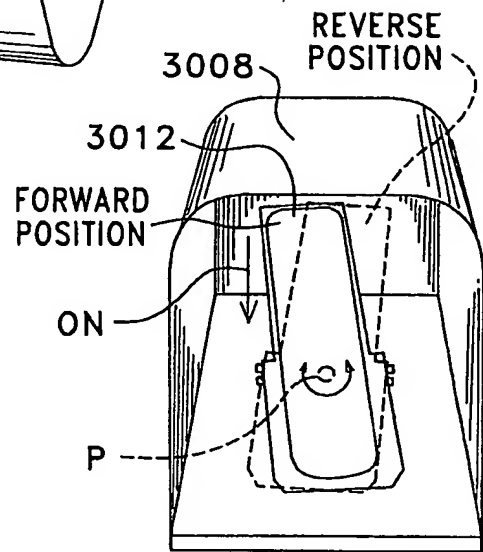


FIG. 4

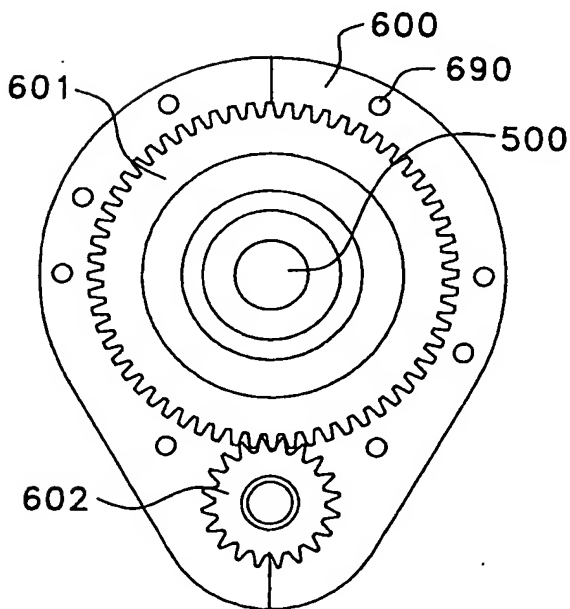


FIG. 6

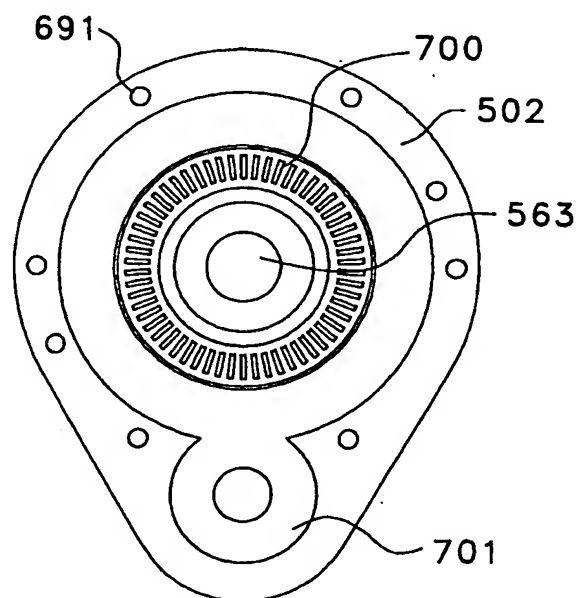


FIG. 7

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4/16



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Title: Improved Powered Clamp
 Applicant: Walter W. Lenox
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5/16

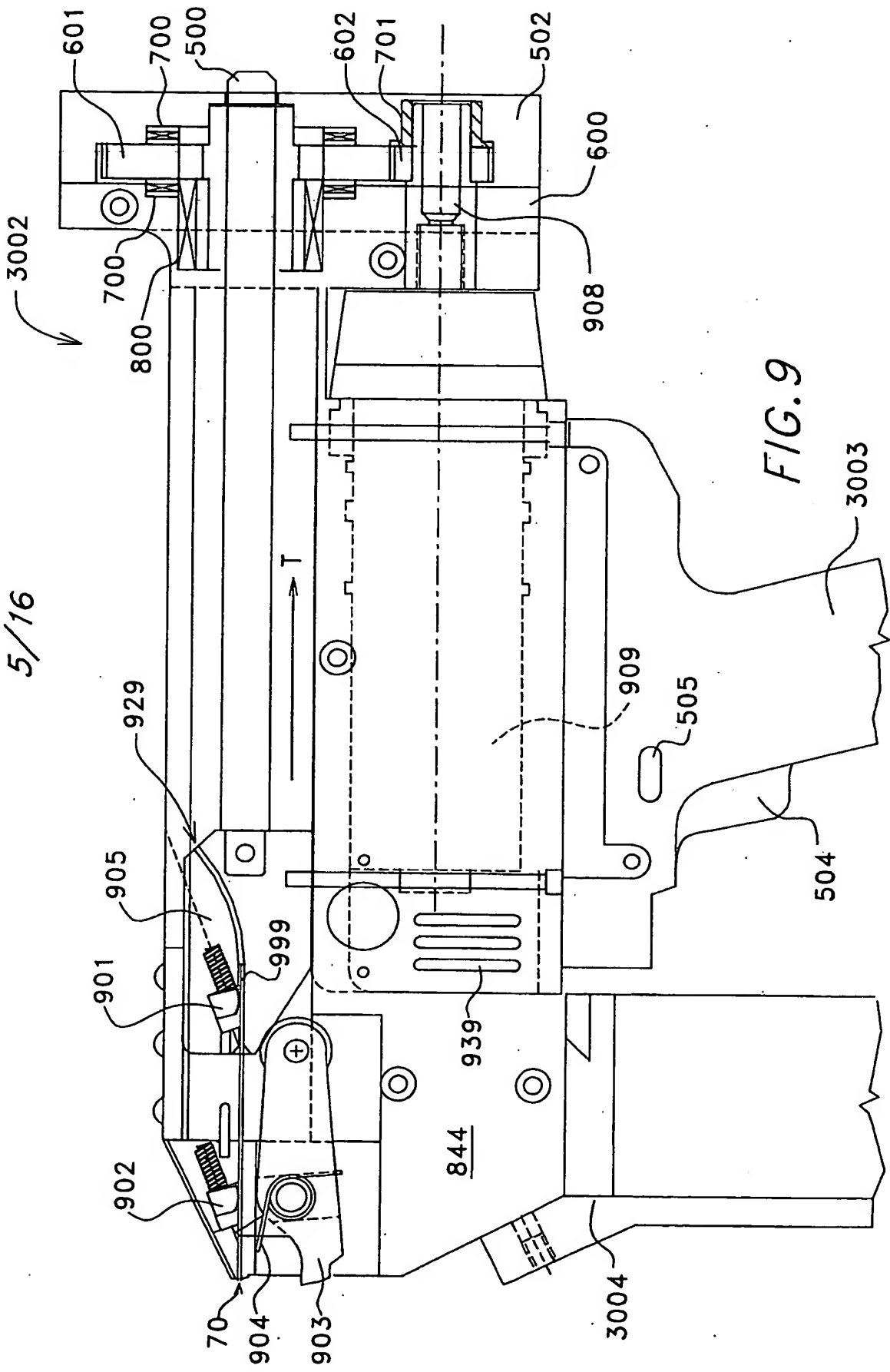


FIG. 9

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6/16

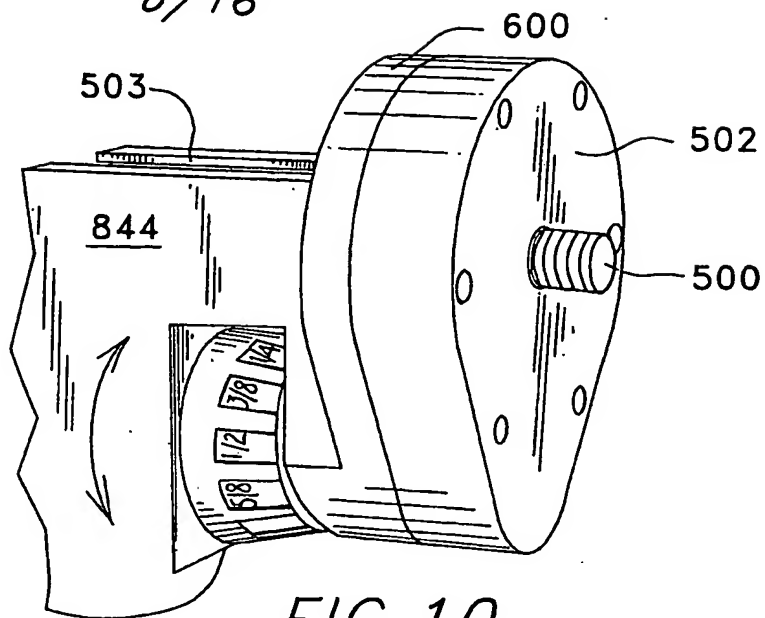


FIG. 10

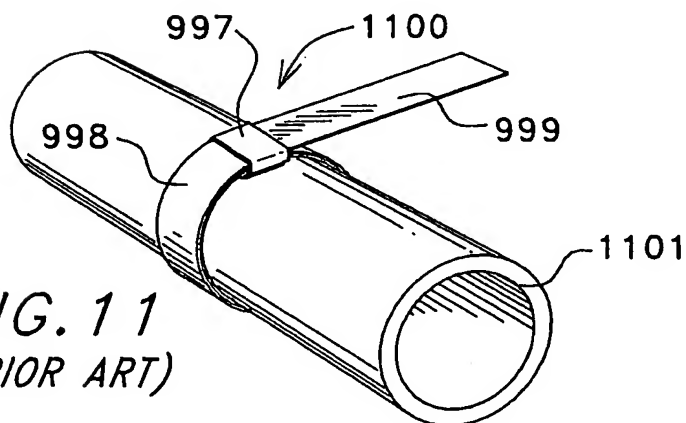


FIG. 11
(PRIOR ART)

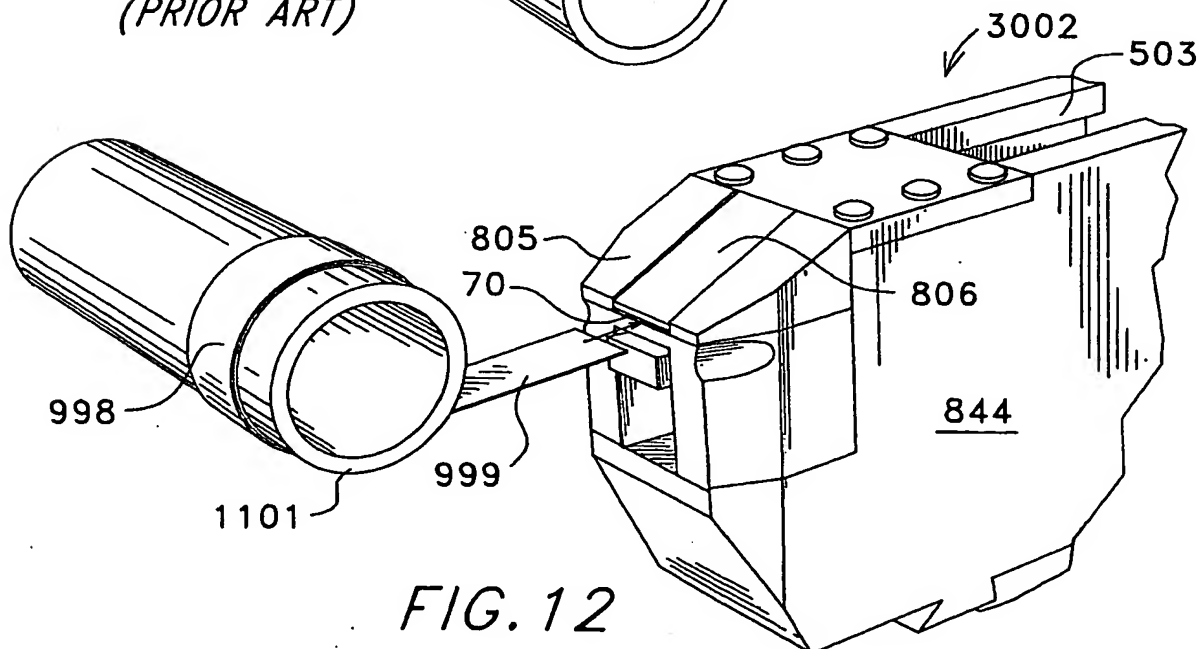


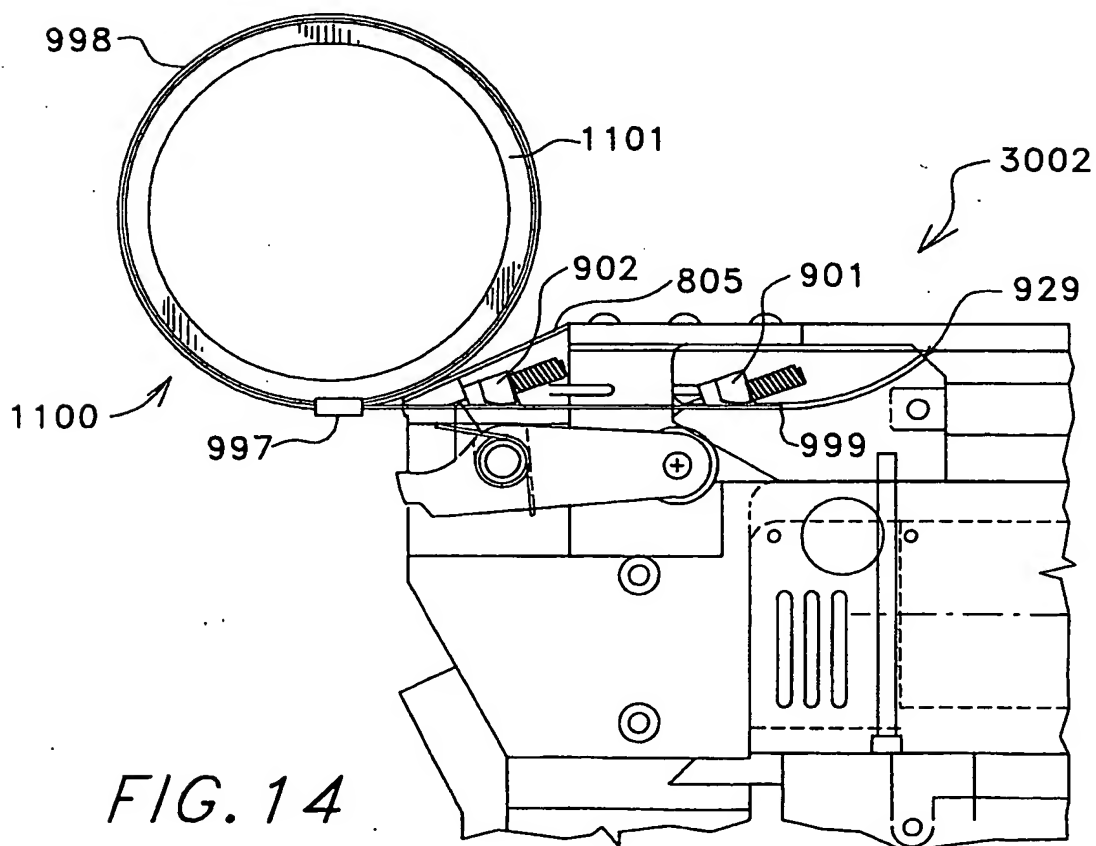
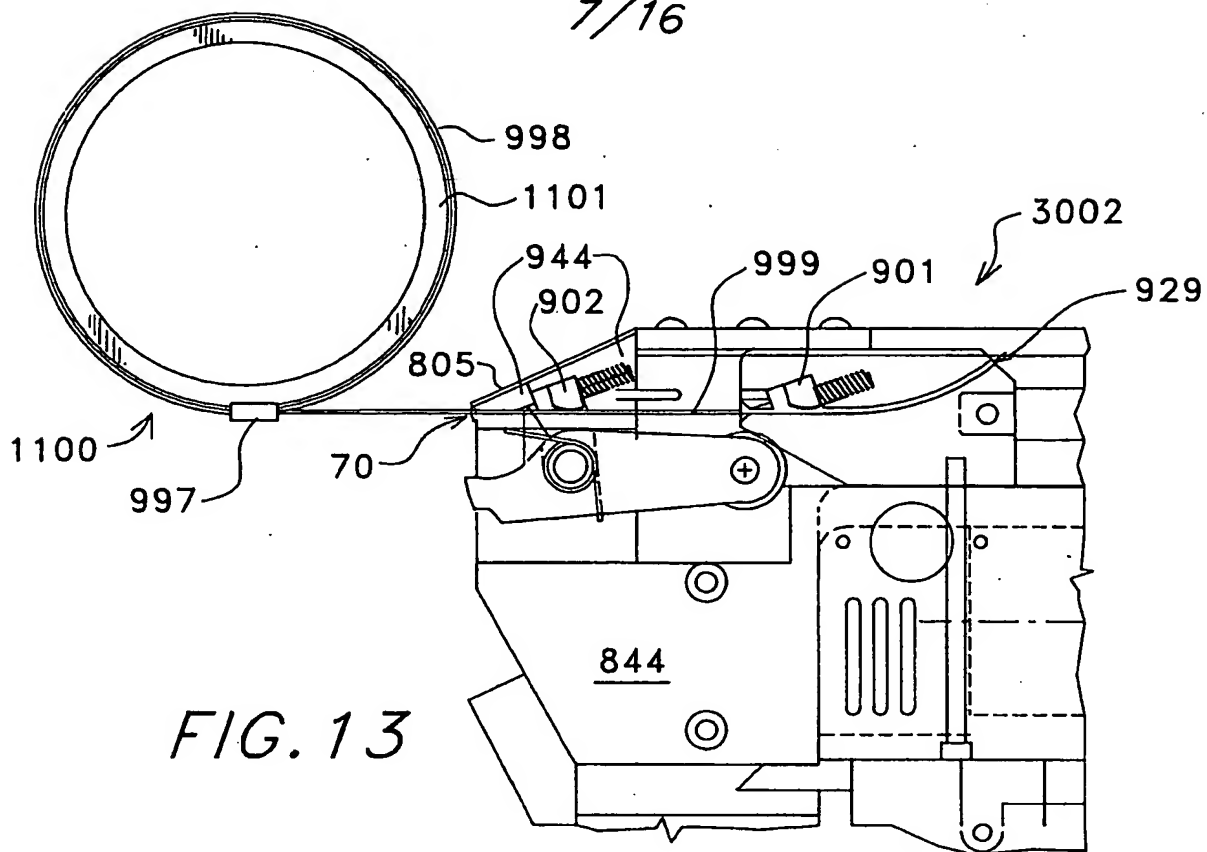
FIG. 12

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140/123.6

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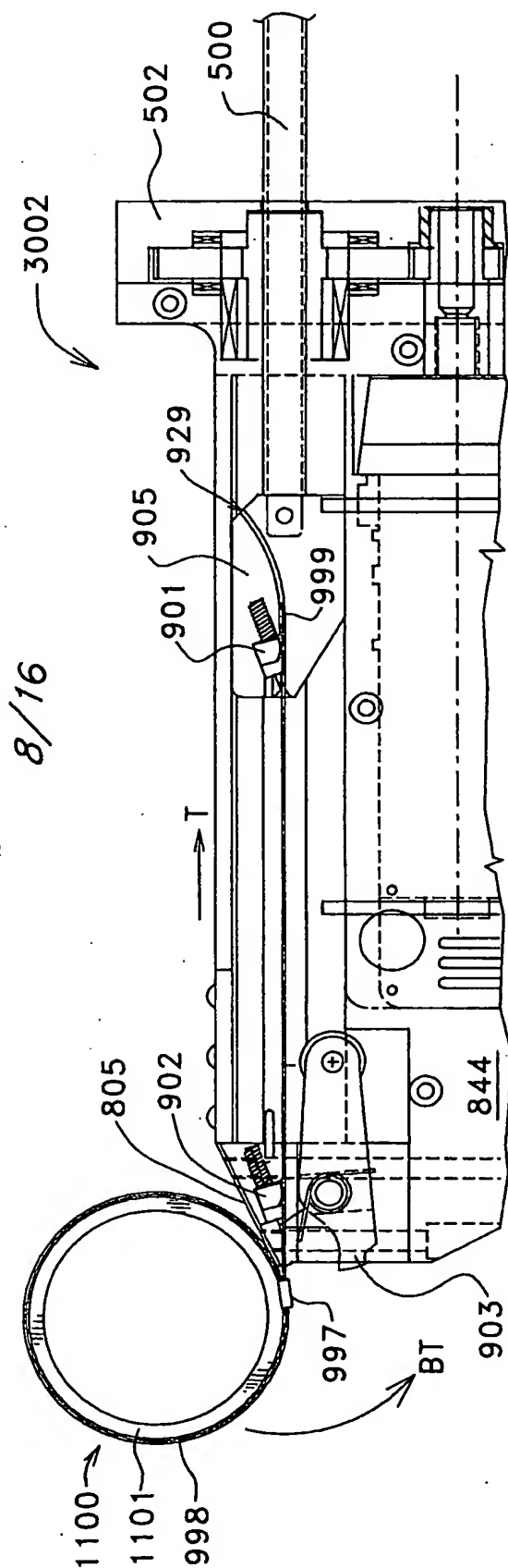
7/16



140/123.6

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8/16

FIG. 15

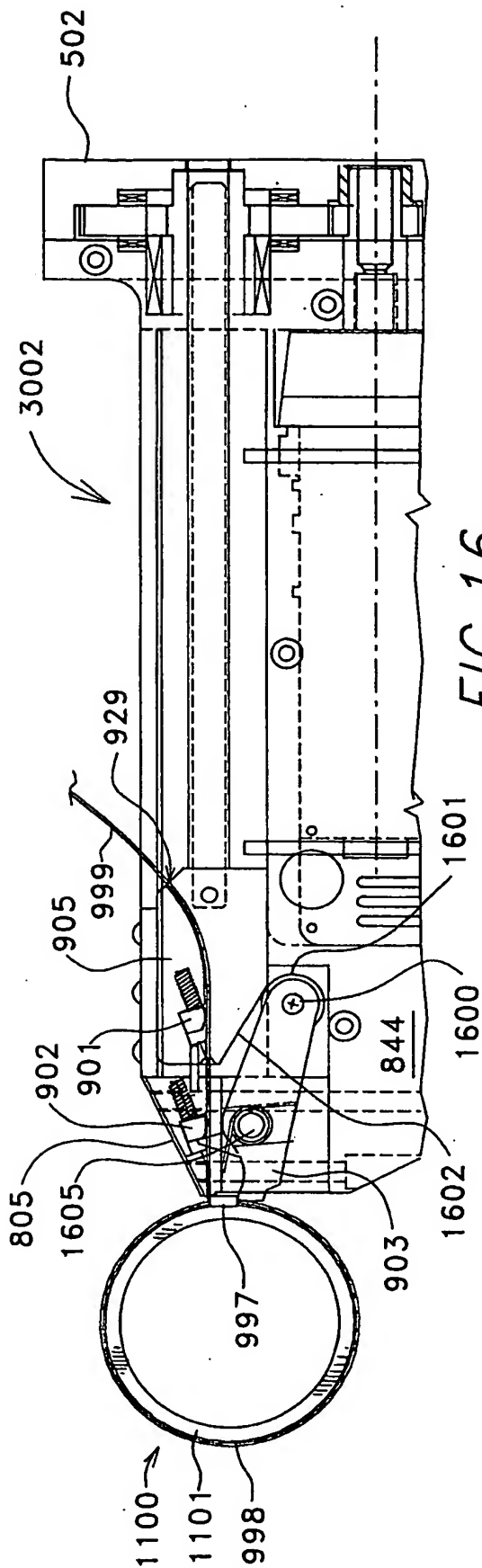


FIG. 16

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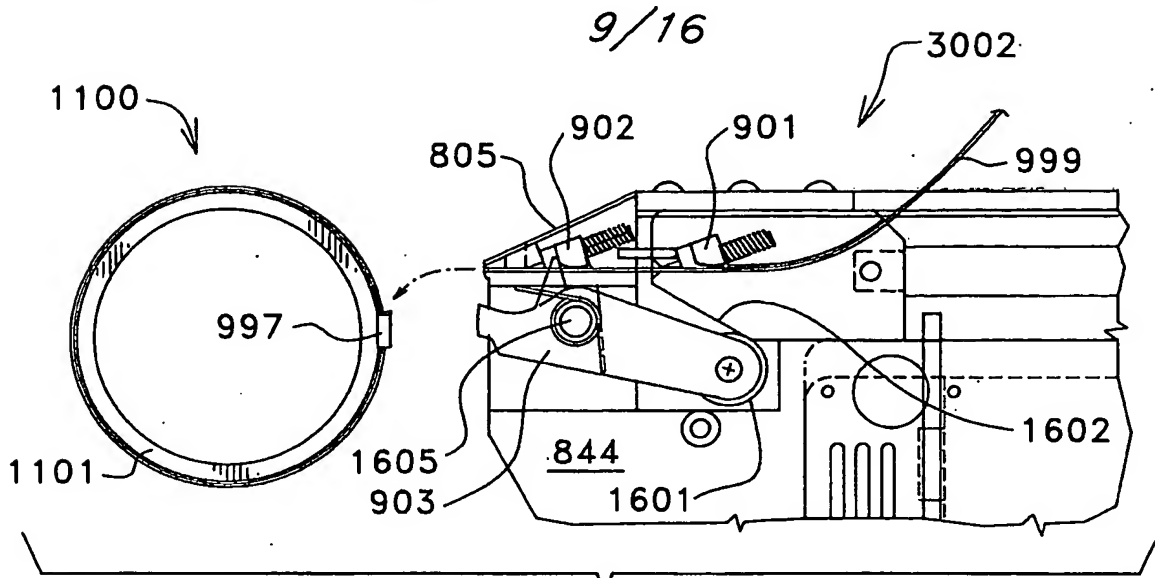
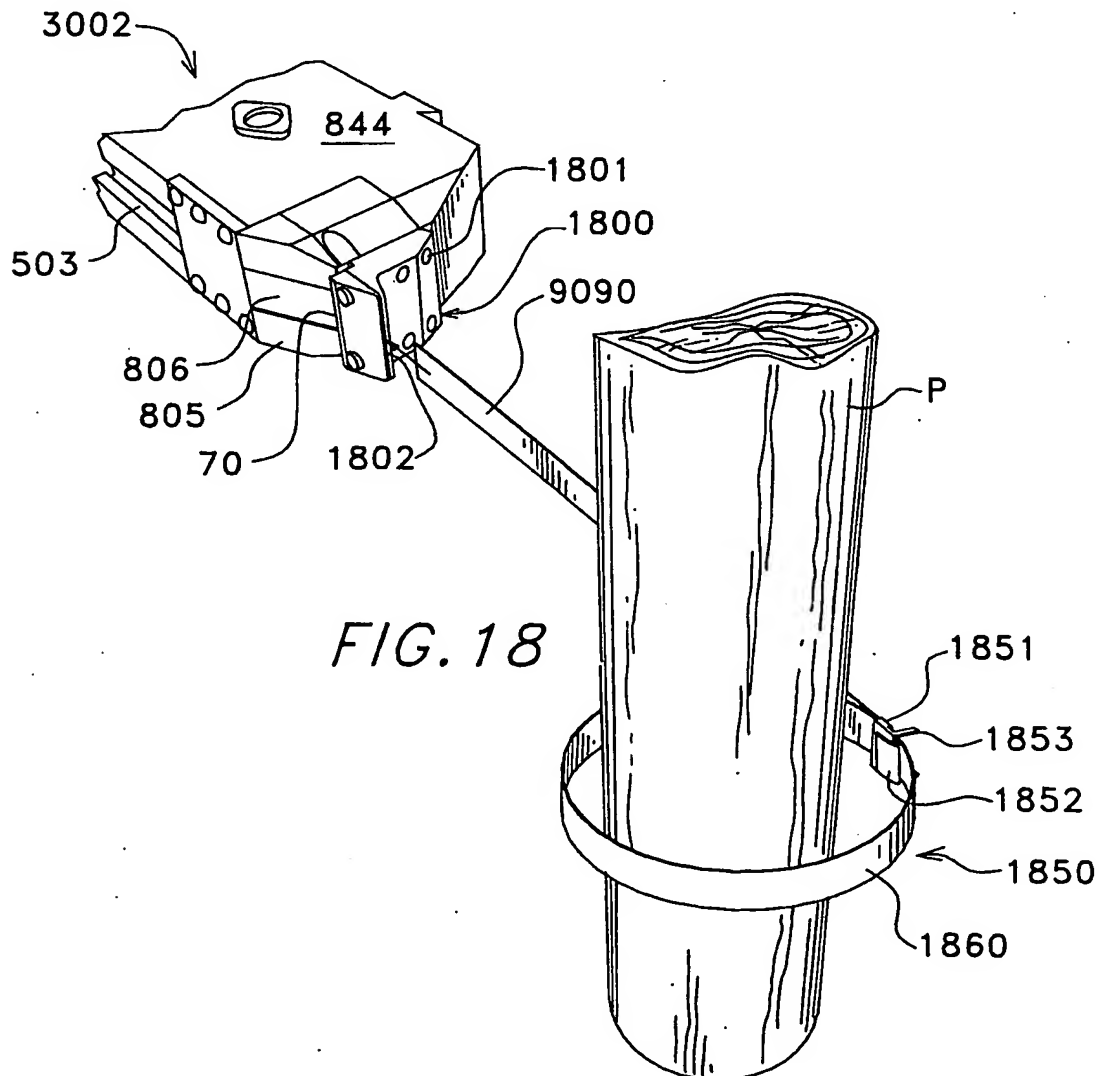


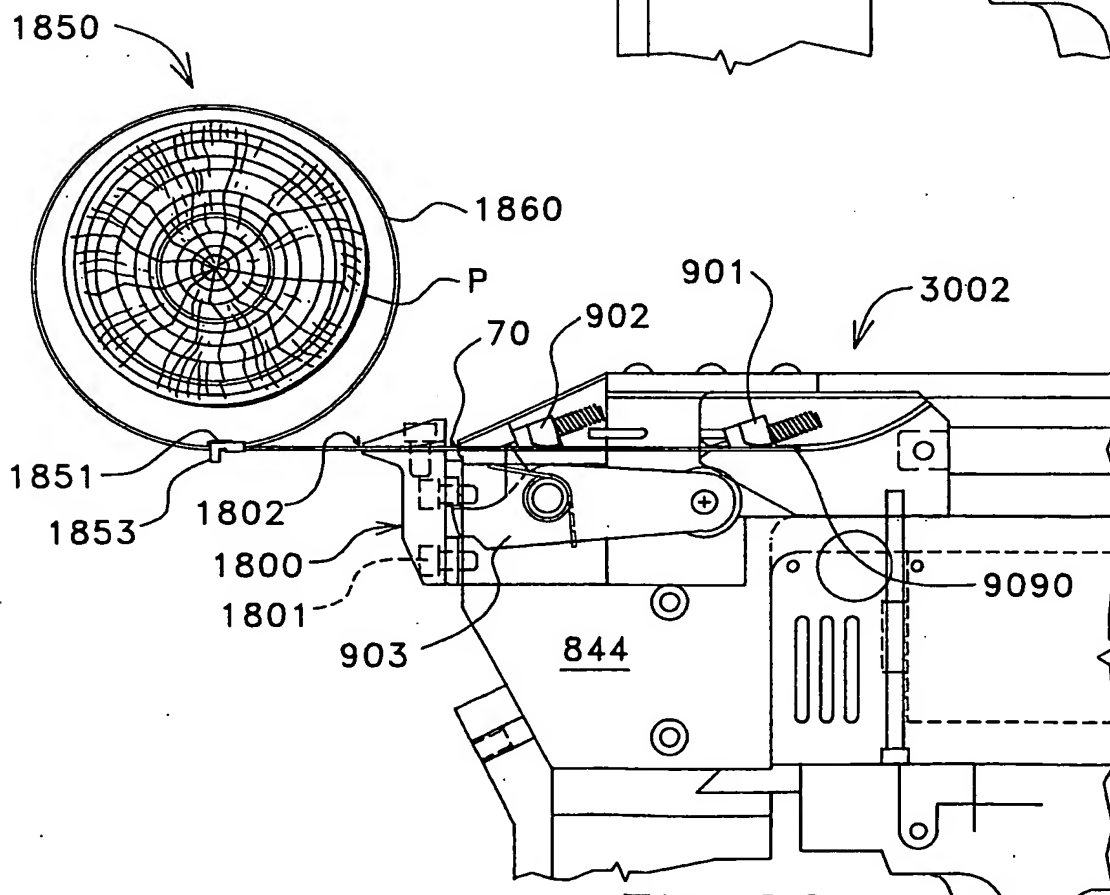
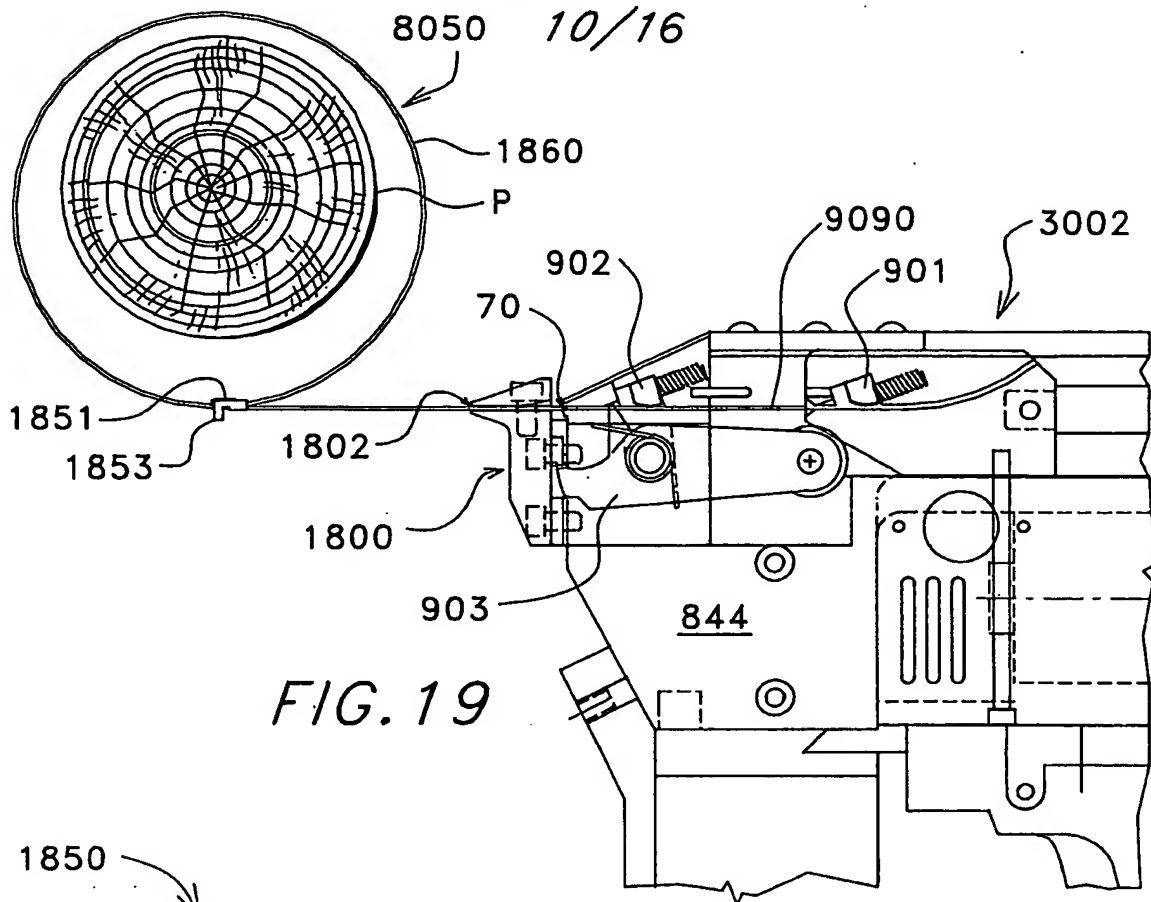
FIG. 17



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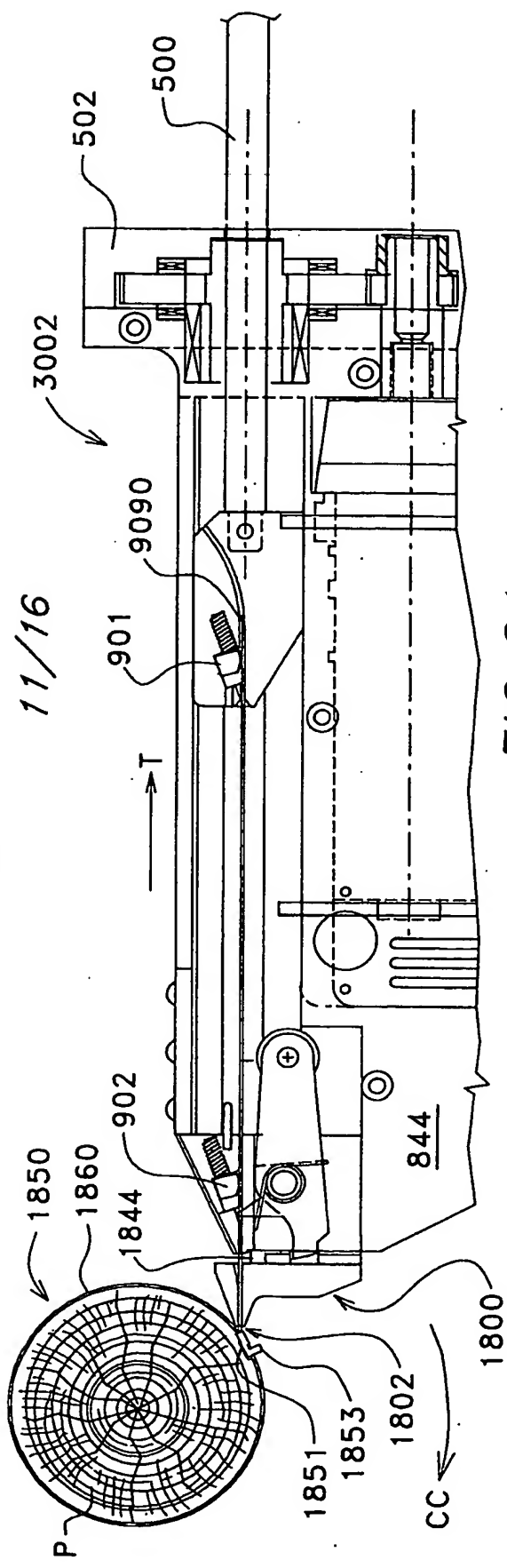


FIG. 21

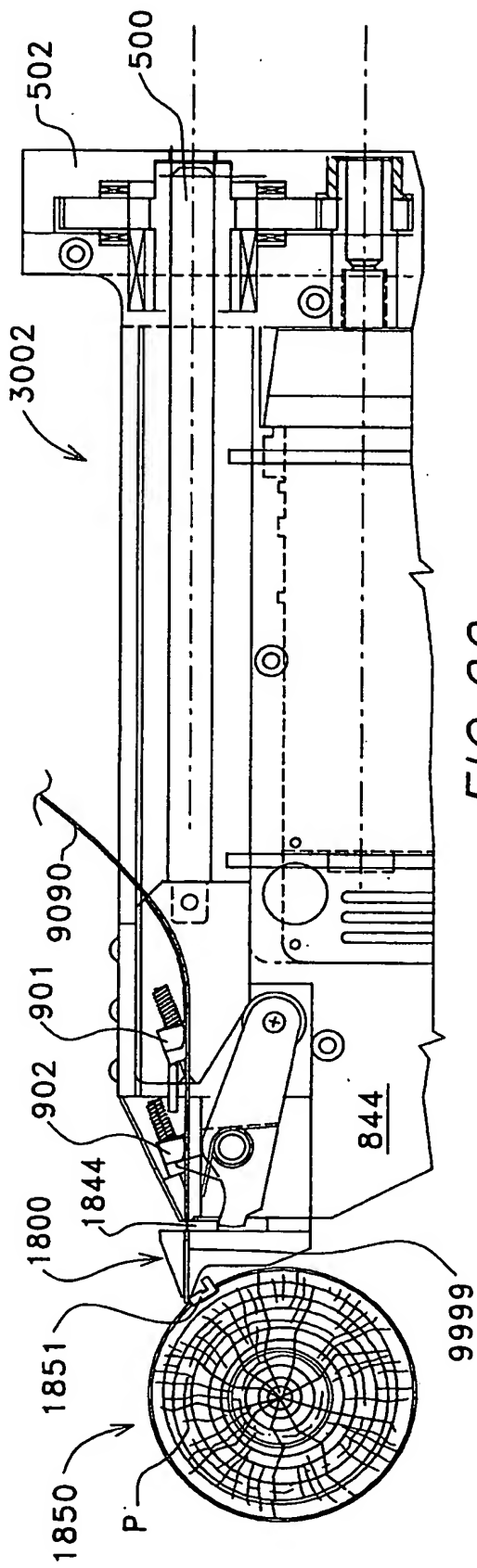


FIG. 22

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140/123.6

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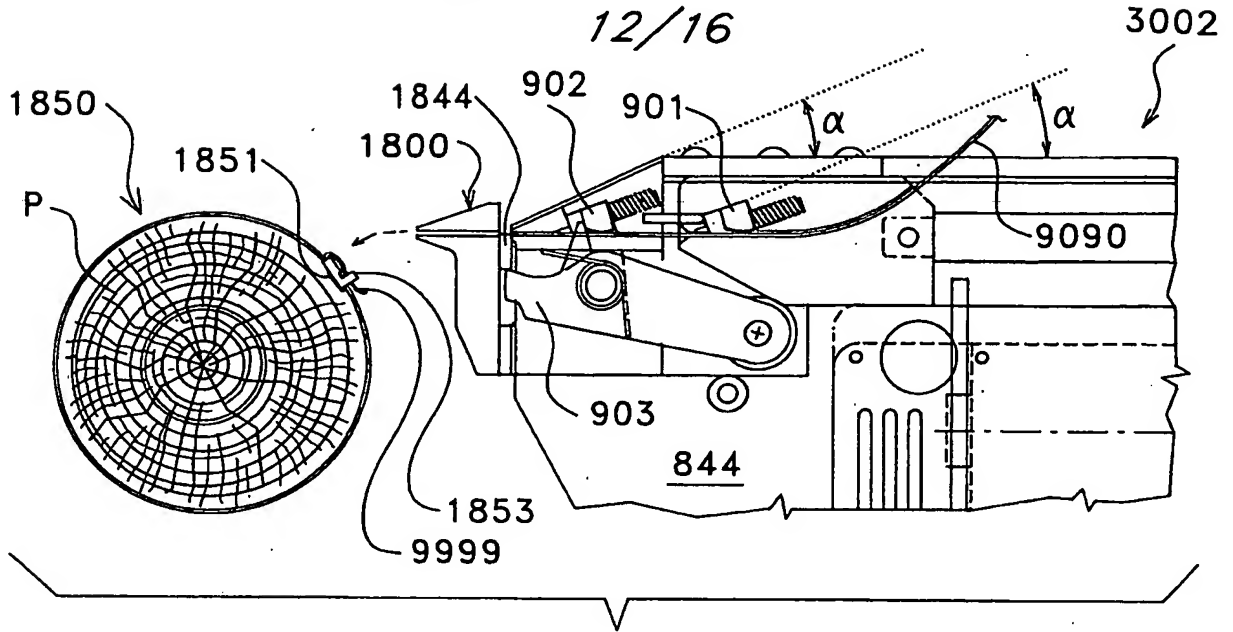


FIG. 23

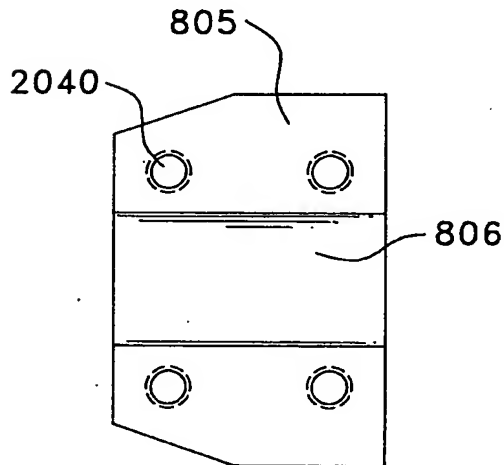


FIG. 24

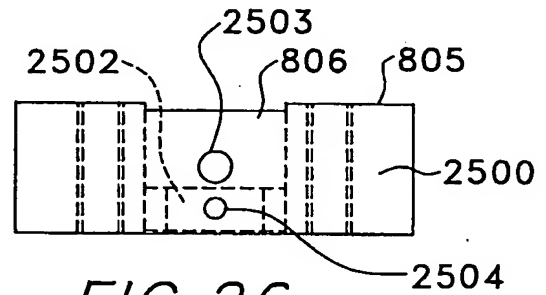


FIG. 26

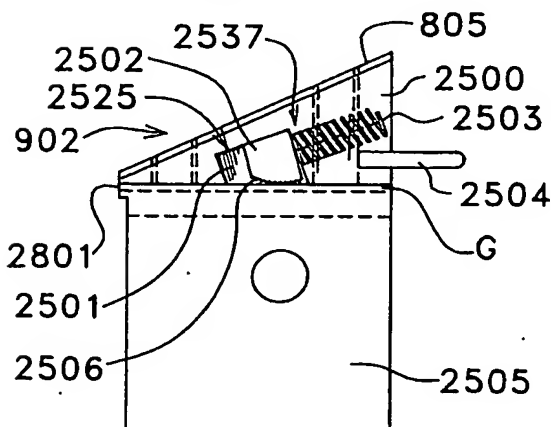


FIG. 25

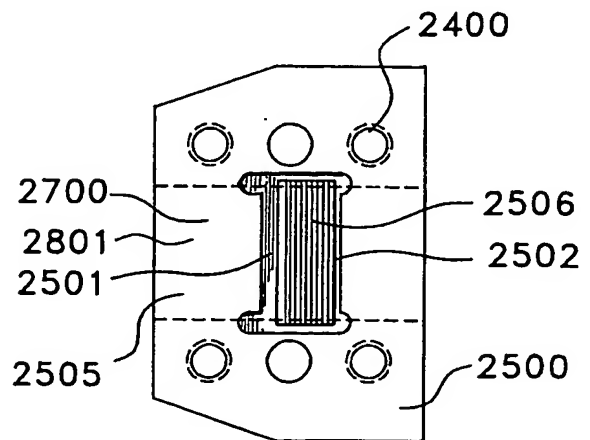


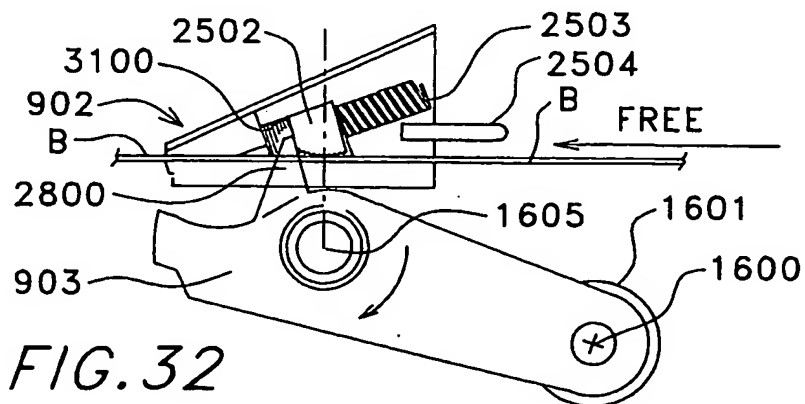
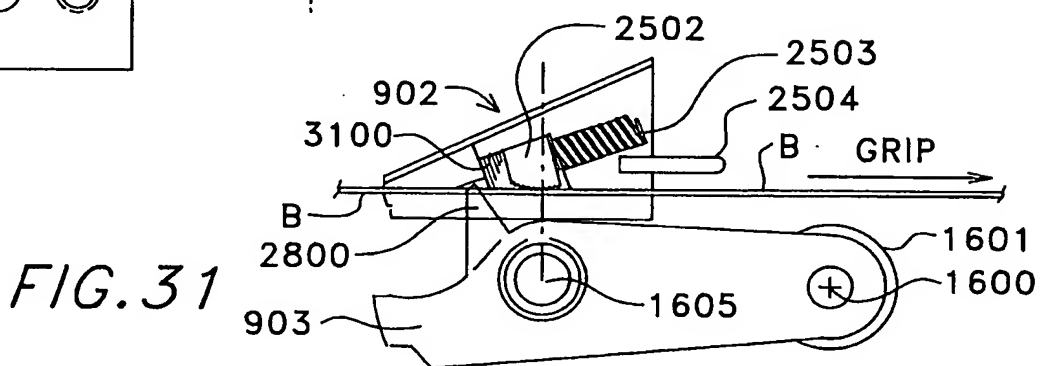
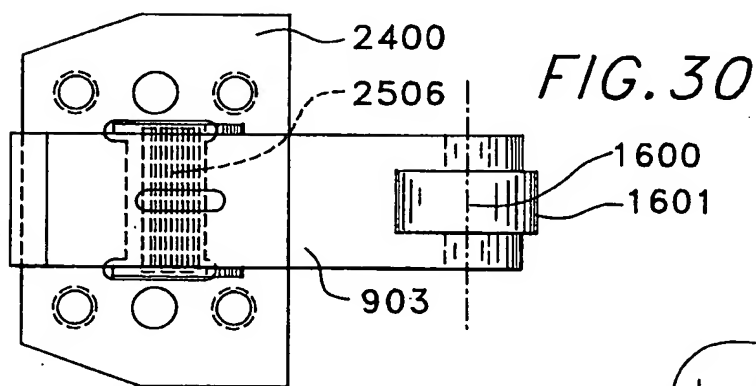
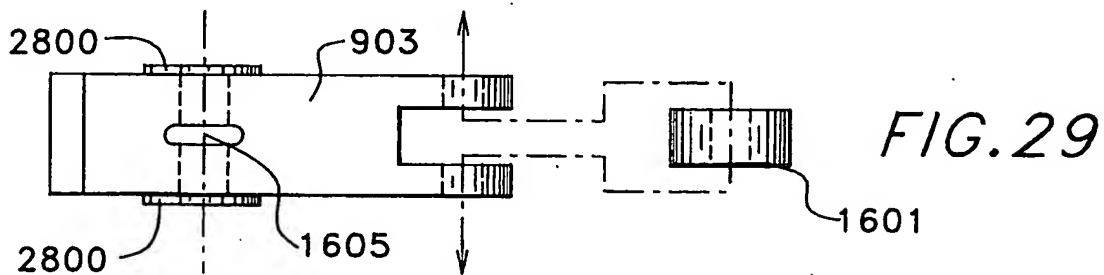
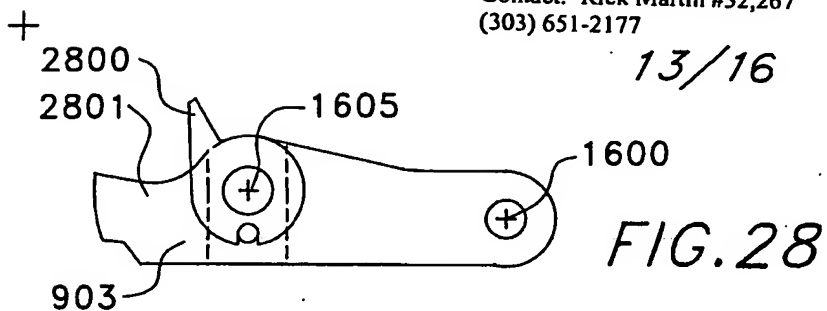
FIG. 27

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140/123-6

Title: Improved Powered Clamp
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13/16



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14/16

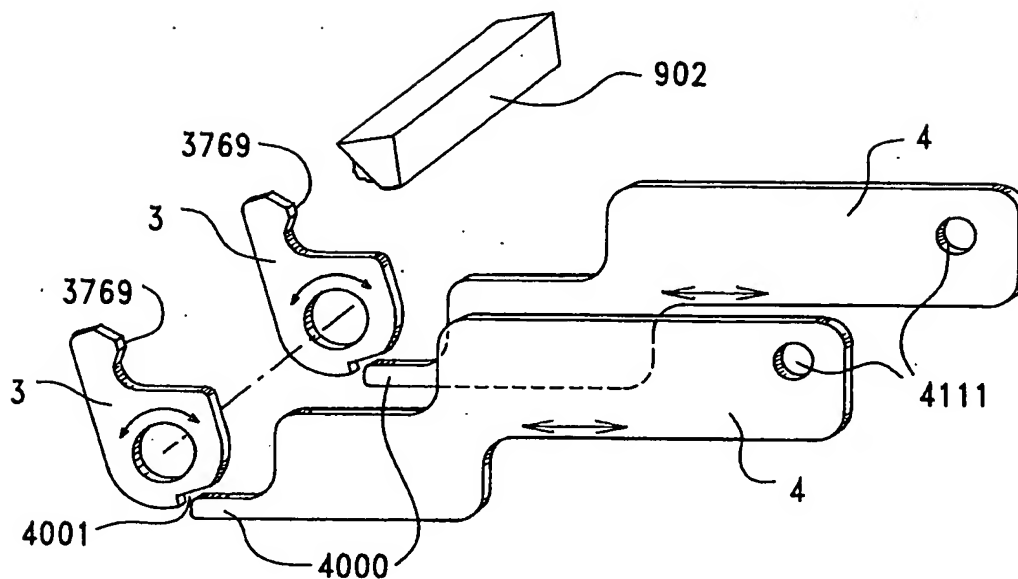


FIG. 33

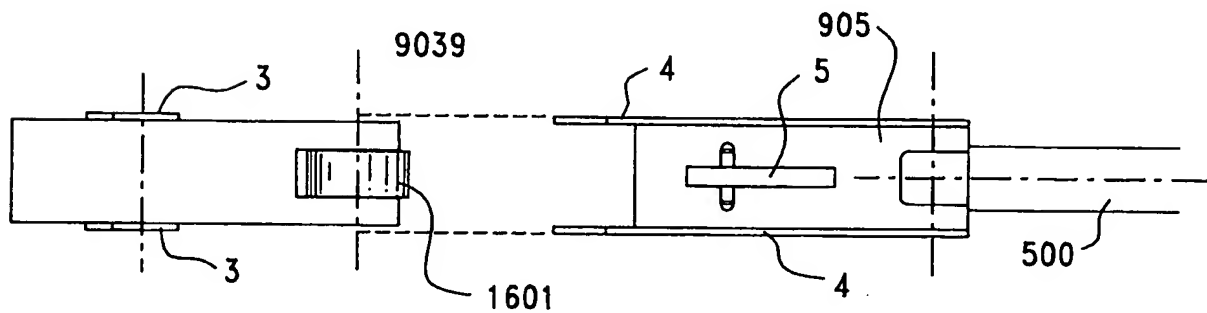


FIG. 35

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15/16

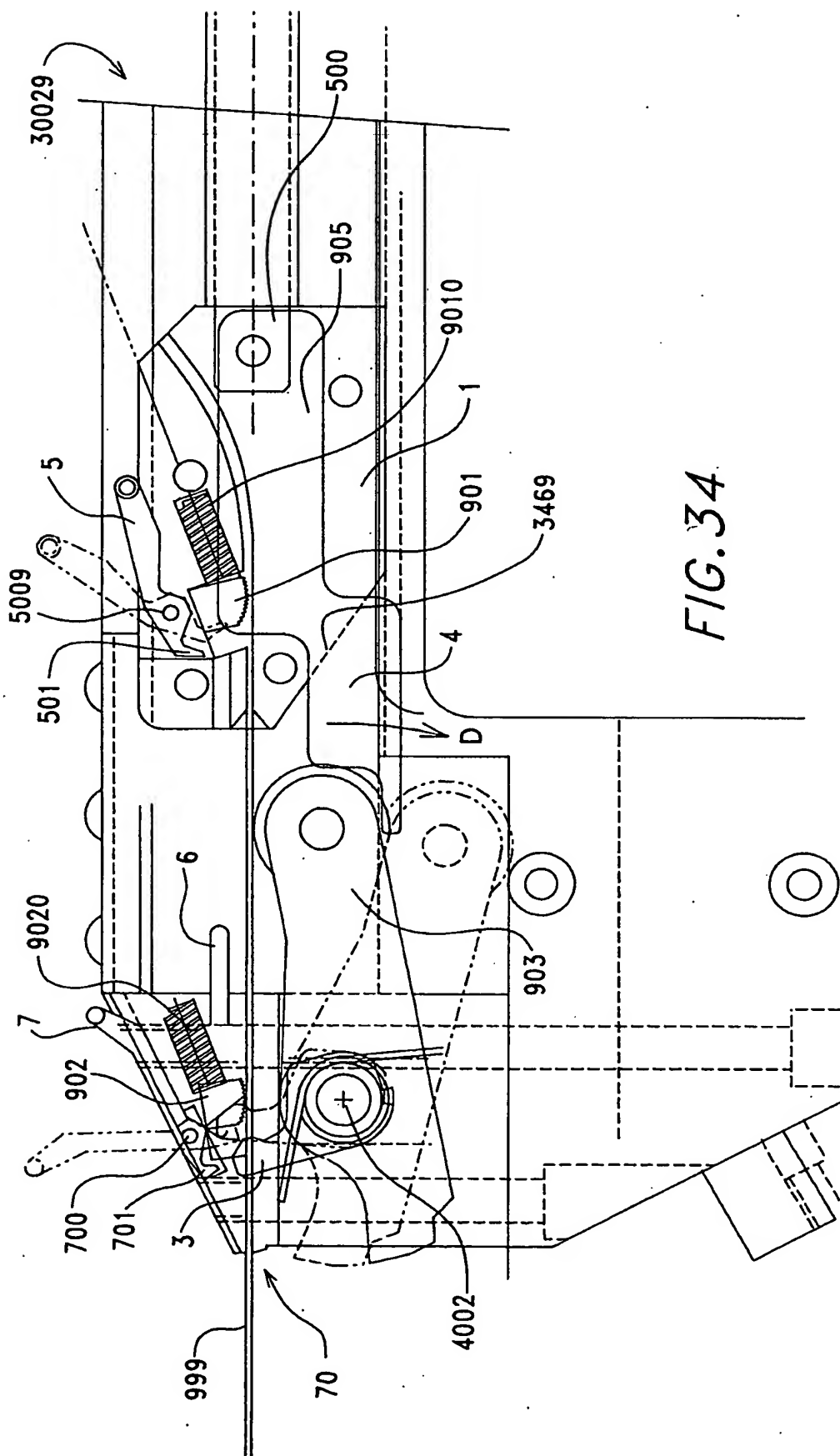


FIG. 34.

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16/16

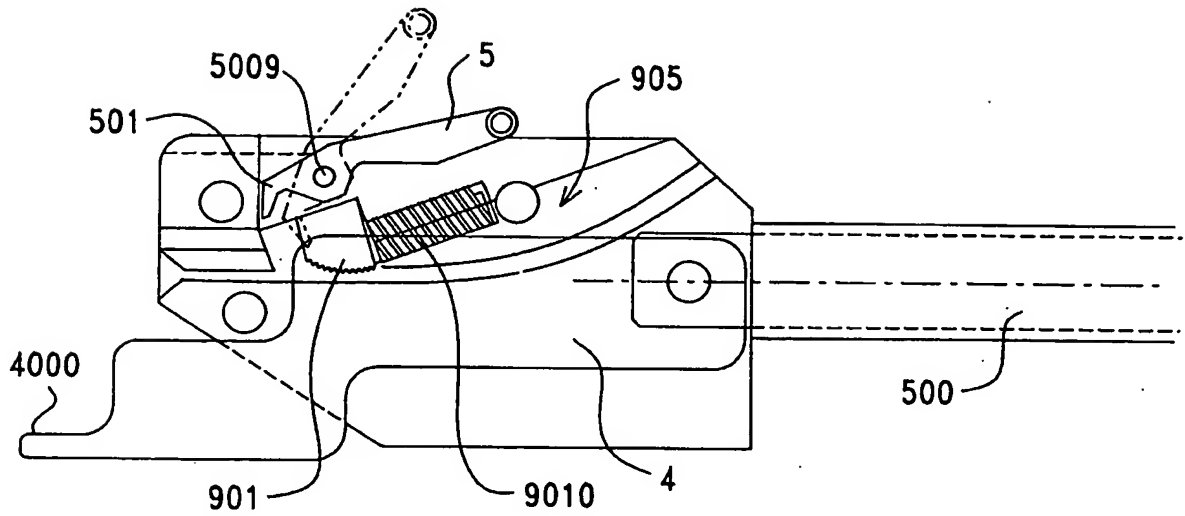


FIG. 36

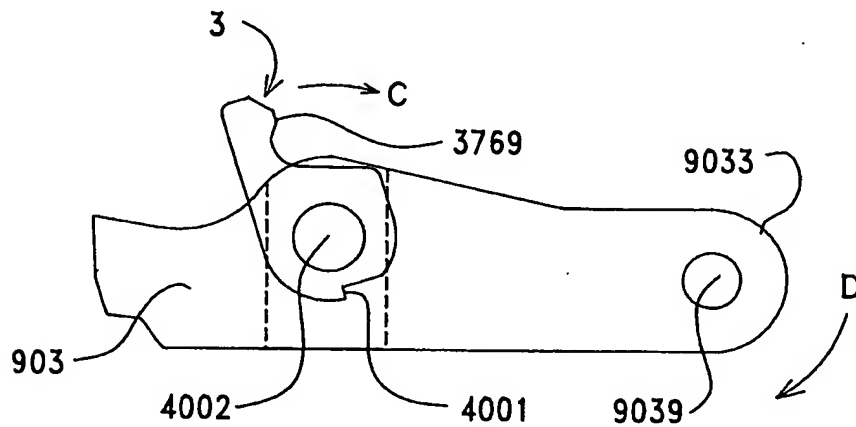


FIG. 37

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